

Serial No. 10/036,756  
Art Unit: 3654

#### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection of the present application and drawings under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), 35 USC 112, 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 is hereby requested.

The present application cites a co-pending application 10/037,314. The page 1 of the present application has been amended to state the correct number.

Corrected substitute drawings are enclosed under a separate cover letter for approval by examiner.

Pages 21, 22 and 23 have been amended as shown hereinabove to correct the Specification as stated by Examiner. Approval is requested.

Claims 1, 9, 14 and 18 stand objected to for certain informalities. Those informalities have been corrected. Withdrawal of such objection to those claims is requested.

Claims 16 – 18 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification. Independent claim 16 and dependent claim 18 have been amended to recite matter recited in the specification, as for example at page 22, lines 22 et seq. Withdrawal of such rejection is requested.

Serial No. 10/036,756  
Art Unit: 3654

Claims 7-8 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been amended to recite the circumferential alignment of the respective locking flanges and also the respective hub flanges.

Claims 16-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the '638 reference to Burger. Independent claim 16 has been amended to recite that the channel and lips of the present invention are rigid. The Burger reference states that such device is flexible, particularly the lips of the Burger device, Such a teaching is contrary to a working device of the present invention. Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 16 and those claims 17 and 18 depending thereon is requested.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burger et al. in view of Patent No. 4,802,638. Since claim 18 is a dependent claim dependent upon a deemed allowable independent claim 16, the dependent claim 18 is believed allowable as well. Such action is requested.

Serial No. 10/036,756  
Art Unit: 3654

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gomberg '731. Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to now recite that the gap between the lips is "greater than said diameter of said support cable and less than twice said diameter of said support cable". The '731 reference requires that such gap be equal to the thickness of the yarn (col. 3, line 10). Applicant on page 16, lines 6-10 of the specification states that the spaced apart distance "D" of the peripheral lips 24 and 26 is preferably greater than the diameter "X" of the cable 12...". Applicant therefore believes the amendment to independent claims 1 and 9 and those depending claims depending therefrom are therefore allowable over the '731 reference, such action being earnestly solicited, and that applicant's invention is therefore not obvious in view of the art of record.

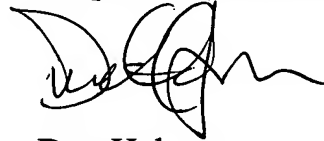
A Terminal Disclaimer and required fee to obviate a double patenting rejection over a pending second application is also enclosed.

Therefore, applicant believes that the specification as corrected, the drawings as enclosed and corrected, and the claims as amended present the application as now in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/036,756  
Art Unit: 3654

Should the Examiner believe that any issue remains unresolved, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned for a discussion of same.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Halgren', with a stylized, flowing script.

Don Halgren

Applicants' rep.  
Reg. No. 27056

35 Central Street  
Manchester, MA 01944

978-526-8000 ph